

This comment is to voice my opposition to the proposal to allow media companies to expand beyond the current approximately 35 percent share of media market. In particular, the abusive behavior of 102.7 FM in the New York market, showed the indifference of the network, the station management, Viacom, and all associated parties to the obscene and indecent broadcast of Opie and Anthony of "live sex" at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, aired live, on a Holy Day of Obligation, in a cathedral where children were required to be present, and over the air during daytime broadcast hours when children could be expected to be listening. Even the sponsor of the broadcast, a beer company executive, has apologized to the Catholic Community. Station management merely dismissed the offending disk jockies (who are free to work elsewhere--whereas in other regulated industries, such as securities and insurance--they would be banned from working in that industry, and fined). Greater media concentration would only increase this form of corporate abusive behavior. FCC has also been very slow to release a full investigation and sanctions of this incident. The near-secrecy, and furtiveness of the current rulemaking, suggest a need for opening up the rulemaking process to more diverse voices. The founding fathers would be appalled at the lack of press freedom that would result from such blatant corporate giveaways. The most likely result, given the more than \$450 million spent by political parties on political advertising, is that fewer owners would act more like a cartel, and increase rates, thus creating an even higher "barrier to entry" for different political voices than we have currently. This can not bode well for democracy. It distresses me, after serving my country in the armed services for more than 30 years, to see one of the chief threats to democracy emerging from our own governmental system. If the FCC goes ahead, over such numerous objections by the public, then you can expect people to appeal to Congress to overturn such irresponsible measures.